

Claims:

1. A method in data processing system for collaboration, comprising the steps of:

5 receiving a first request to perform an operation synchronously with a live session by a collaboration tool;

executing the operation in response to the first synchronous request by the collaboration tool;

10 receiving a second request to perform the same operation asynchronously with the live session by the collaboration tool; and

executing the operation in response to the second asynchronous request by the collaboration tool.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

15 receiving the first request via a graphical user interface; and

receiving the second request via the graphical user interface.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein executing the operations in response to the first request further comprises the steps of:

20 detecting the presence of another user to determine whether the user is online; and

executing the operation based on the determination.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein executing the operation based on the determination further comprises the step of:

delaying execution of the operation based the determination.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the operation comprises sending a  
5 question.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the operation comprises sending an answer in response to a question.

10 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the operation comprises sending a file.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the operation comprises sending a quiz.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the operation comprises sending a  
15 response to a quiz.

10. A method in a data processing system having a collaboration tool, the method comprising the steps performed by the collaboration tool of:

displaying a graphical user interface including a plurality of operations;

receiving a first request to perform one of the operations in a synchronous

5 manner; and

receiving a second request to perform the one operation in an asynchronous

manner.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

10 performing the one operation.

12. A method in a data processing system for collaboration, comprising the steps of:

recording a live interactive presentation with interactive elements; and

playing the recording of the live presentation such that a user is able to interact

5 with the interactive elements.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:

creating a recording using a collaboration tool.

10 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:

providing, during playback of the recording, interactive elements of the

collaboration tool available during creation of the recording.

15. The method of 13, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

15 a note tool.

16. The method of 13, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a question and answer tool.

20 17. The method of claim 13, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a file transfer tool.

18. The method of 13, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a quiz tool.

19. The method of 13, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:  
a presentation broadcast tool.

20. A data processing system for collaboration, comprising:

a memory comprising a program that receives a first request to perform an operation synchronously with a live session by a collaboration tool, executes the operation in response to the first synchronous request by the collaboration tool, receives a second request to perform the same operation asynchronously with the live session by the collaboration tool, and executes the operation in response to the second asynchronous request by the collaboration tool; and

a processor for running the program.

10 21. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the program further receives the first request via a graphical user interface, and receives the second request via the graphical user interface.

22. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the program further  
15 detects the presence of another user to determine whether the user is online, and executes the operation based on the determination.

23. The data processing system of claim 22, wherein program further delays execution of the operation based the determination.

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24. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the operation comprises sending a question.

25. The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the operation comprises sending an answer in response to a question.

26. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the operation comprises  
5 sending a file.

27. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the operation comprises sending a quiz.

10 28. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the operation comprises sending a response to a quiz.

29. A data processing system having a collaboration tool, comprising:
- a memory comprising a program that causes a collaboration tool to display a graphical user interface including a plurality of operations, receive a request to perform one of the operations in a synchronous manner, and receive a request to perform the one
- 5 operation in an asynchronous manner; and
- a processor for running program.

30. The data processing system of claim 29, wherein the collaboration tool is further configured to perform the one operation.



31. A data processing system for collaboration, comprising:  
a memory comprising a program that records a live interactive presentation with  
interactive elements, and plays the recording of the live presentation such that a user is  
able to interact with the interactive elements; and  
5 a processor for running the program.

32. The data processing system of claim 31, wherein the program further  
creates a recording using a collaboration tool.

10 33. The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the program further  
provides, during playback of the recording, interactive elements of the collaboration tool  
available during creation of the recording.

34. The data processing system of 32, wherein the collaboration tool  
15 comprises:  
a note tool.

35. The data processing system of 32, wherein the collaboration tool  
comprises:  
20 a question and answer tool.

36. The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the collaboration tool  
comprises:

a file transfer tool.

37. The data processing system of 32, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

5 a quiz tool.

38. The data processing system of 32, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a presentation broadcast tool.

39. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system for collaboration to perform a method comprising the steps of:

receiving a first request to perform an operation synchronously with a live session by a collaboration tool;

5 executing the operation in response to the first synchronous request by the collaboration tool;

receiving a second request to perform the same operation asynchronously with the live session by the collaboration tool; and

executing the operation in response to the second asynchronous request by the

10 collaboration tool.

40. The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

receiving the first request via a graphical user interface; and

15 receiving the second request via the graphical user interface.

41. The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein executing the operations in response to the first request further comprises the steps of:

detecting the presence of another user to determine whether the user is online; and

20 executing the operation based on the determination.

42. The computer-readable medium of claim 41, wherein executing the operation based on the determination further comprises the step of:

delaying execution of the operation based the determination.

43. The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the operation comprises sending a question.

5 44. The computer-readable medium of claim 43, wherein the operation comprises sending an answer in response to a question.

45. The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the operation comprises sending a file.

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46. The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the operation comprises sending a quiz.

47. The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the operation  
15 comprises sending a response to a quiz.

48. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a collaboration tool in a data processing system for collaboration to perform a method comprising the steps of:

- displaying a graphical user interface including a plurality of operations;
- 5 receiving a request to perform one of the operations in a synchronous manner; and
- receiving a request to perform the one operation in an asynchronous manner.

49. The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

- 10 performing the one operation.

50. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system for collaboration to perform a method comprising the steps of:  
 recording a live interactive presentation with interactive elements; and  
 playing the recording of the live presentation such that a user is able to interact  
 5 with the interactive elements.

51. The computer-readable medium of claim 50, wherein the method further comprises the step of:  
 creating a recording using a collaboration tool.

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52. The computer-readable medium of claim 51, wherein the method further comprises the step of:  
 providing, during playback of the recording, interactive elements of the collaboration tool available during creation of the recording.

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53. The computer-readable medium of 51, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:  
 a note tool.

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54. The computer-readable medium of 51, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:  
 a question and answer tool.

55. The computer-readable medium of claim 51, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a file transfer tool.

5 56. The computer-readable medium of 51, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a quiz tool.

10 57. The computer-readable medium of 51, wherein the collaboration tool comprises:

a presentation broadcast tool.

58. A data processing system for collaboration, comprising:
- means for receiving a first request to perform an operation synchronously with a live session by a collaboration tool;
  - means for executing the operation in response to the first synchronous request by
- 5 the collaboration tool;
- means for receiving a second request to perform the same operation asynchronously with the live session by the collaboration tool; and
  - means for executing the operation in response to the second asynchronous request by the collaboration tool.